

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: AVOIDED COSTS	DOCKET NO. INU-2014-0001
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**ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIALITY
FILED JULY 11, 2014**

(Issued July 18, 2014)

On July 11, 2014, Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a request for confidentiality of information requested by parties at a technical conference conducted on avoided cost issues on June 5 and 6, 2014. The information for which confidentiality is sought includes proprietary market data IPL obtained from Wood Mackenzie that IPL uses for input in its resource planning. IPL supported the request for confidentiality with an affidavit by a corporate officer. The material for which confidentiality was requested was filed separately and marked confidential. IPL cited Iowa Code §§ 22.7(3) and 22.7(6) (2013) as authority for confidential treatment of the data.

IPL claims the information is a report to a governmental agency that, if released, would give advantage to competitors and serve no public purpose and, therefore, should be held confidential pursuant to § 22.7(6). With respect to the data, IPL states that it secures competitive bids for additional capacity and energy procurements and disclosure would give competitors an undue advantage in negotiations and discourage low bids. IPL notes that discouraging low bids would increase costs to IPL's ratepayers. Also, IPL said the data was obtained from Wood

Mackenzie pursuant to a licensing agreement wherein IPL agreed not to release the information to the public.

The information in question qualifies as a report to a government agency. Based on the affidavit supplied by IPL, release of such information would serve no public purpose. Therefore, the Board will hold the information confidential pursuant to Iowa Code § 22.7(6).

The filed information may also be confidential as a trade secret pursuant to Iowa Code §§ 22.7(3) and 550.2(4). However, because the Board finds the information should be held confidential under § 22.7(6), the Board does not reach the question of whether the information is a trade secret or a communication not required by law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The request for confidentiality filed by Interstate Power and Light Company on July 11, 2014, is granted.
2. The filed information shall be held confidential by the Board subject to the provisions of 199 IAC 1.9(8)"b"(3).

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Elizabeth S. Jacobs

ATTEST:

/s/ Joan Conrad
Executive Secretary

/s/ Sheila K. Tipton

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 18th day of July 2014.